

# **THE NEW AMERICAN GHETTO**

November 5-December 21, Tuesday-Saturday 12-6 pm

December 10, 1991. 6:30-8:30 pm

A Discussion on the exhibition of **THE NEW AMERICAN GHETTO** with

**Willie Birch**

**Kenneth Frampton**

**Marina Gutierrez**

**Leonard Hicks**

**Peter Marcuse**

**Richard Plunz**

**Camilo Jose Vergara**

and others.

December 13, 1991. 2-6 pm

A discussion on the project **The Mott Haven Interventions** by the students of The Graduate School of Architecture, Planning and Preservation of Graduate School of Architecture, Columbia University, with

**Marta Gutman, Thomas Hanrahan, Leonard Hicks, Kenneth Kaplan, Lionel McIntyre, Kyong Park, Richard Plunz, Tony Schuman, Camilo Jose Vergara, Laretta Vinciarelli**



In 1989, this building on Daly Avenue in the South Bronx was an ornate but empty shell. The structure had suffered many fires, which blackened its facade and completely destroyed the roof, and its basement once housed a thriving crack den. Recently cleaned, this ruin is scheduled to be rebuilt by the city

**THE NEW AMERICAN GHETTO** is a multi-media exhibition focusing on the emergence of new kind of ghettos that are currently taking shape in major American cities. Based on the "Ruins and Revivals Archive" of the photo-journalist Camilo Jose Vergara, the exhibition also contains an analysis of the social and architectural conditions of the Mott Haven Section, generated by the students of Columbia University. **THE NEW AMERICAN GHETTO** is a collaboration by The Municipal Art Society, The Graduate School of Architecture, Planning and Preservation of Columbia University and **STOREFRONT** for Art and Architecture.

**THE NEW AMERICAN GHETTO** is supported by generous grants from the National Endowment for the Arts, the New York State Council on the Arts, and Columbia University.

Let the New American Ghetto exhibition constitute a warning. As a nation we are creating something new in our cities and we must be resolute in our understanding of its implications. While our national political leadership basks in the glory of the "triumph of capitalism over communism," the harsh realities of our publicly managed minority communities are painfully evident to anyone who dares to look. There is no less a potential for crisis here than has occurred in Eastern Europe. This exhibition is about waiting for the other shoe to drop. The new society and urbanism is appearing before our eyes. Its origins are complex and wide ranging, but one must point to the national abrogation of responsibility and leadership in grappling with this transformation of our society in the post-industrial and post-capitalist era.

Richard Plunz

## **STOREFRONT** for Art & Architecture

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